[9th August 1929

Bills

Introduction of the Estates Land Act Amending Bill and the Malabar Tenancy Bill.

*174 *Q.*—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government propose to introduce during the next session their Madras Estates Land Act Amending Bill and the Malabar Tenancy Bill ?

A.—The Malabar Tenancy Bill will be introduced during the present session of the Legislative Council. The Madras Estates Land Act (Amendment) Bill is under the consideration of the Government and it is not possible to say definitely at this stage when it will be introduced.

11-30 a.m. Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"May I know whether Government have received a report from the Board of Revenue about amendments to the Estates Land Act ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"The Government received a report suggesting certain amendments."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"May I know whether Government will place the report of the Board of Revenue on the table of the House ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I will consider the suggestion."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"May I know the stage in which the Bill is ? In the answer it is stated that the Bill is under the consideration of Government. May I know at what particular stage it is now, whether it is in the circulation of the Members of the Cabinet or under the consideration of the hon. the Revenue Member himself ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I regret that I am not certain as to the present position."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether the draft Bill is ready ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"A Bill has been drafted but I cannot say whether the form of the Bill has yet been finally decided."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"May I know whether the hon. the Revenue Member can give some idea as to when he may be able to introduce the Bill ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"It is difficult to give an exact date by which the Bill will be ready. Certain matters are still under consideration and we want further information on certain points."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"I do not want the hon. Member to give me an exact date, but some approximate date or the month by which Government will be able to introduce the Bill or whether it will be introduced in the course of this year may be given ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I can assure the hon. Member that steps will be taken to introduce the Bill as quickly as possible.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"May I know whether the report of the Committee appointed will be circulated in this House ?"

9th August 1929]

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" The report of which committee ? "

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" The report of the committee appointed to suggest amendments to the Madras Estates Land Act."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL : —" I will consider the suggestion."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether the Bill can be expected to be introduced during the October meeting of the Council ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I regret I cannot give a definite promise, but I can assure hon. Members that every endeavour will be made to introduce it as quickly as possible."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I ask the hon. Member whether he has seen the promise given by the hon. Law Member then in charge of the Bill, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, that he would introduce the Bill in the October sitting of 1927 and also by the hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks that he would try and see that both the Bills, the Malabar Tenancy Bill and the Estates Land Act (Amendment) Bill would be introduced practically at the same time, giving preference to the Malabar Tenancy Bill ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Assuming that the hon. Member's statements are correct, I submit that the failure of my predecessors to carry out these undertakings in spite of the best intentions, justifies my present hesitation to give a similar undertaking."

Estates Land Act

Settlement operations in the villages of Tekkali and other estates in Ganjam district.

* 175 *Q.*—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reason why settlement operations under Chapter XI of the Estates Land Act are not pushed through in the villages of Tekkali, Nandigam, Khallikote, Attagada and Dharkote estates of Ganjam district even though these operations were sanctioned two or three years back ;

(*b*) the reason why special attention is paid to settlement work of Parlakimedi estate even though the ryots protested against those operations ; and

(*c*) whether complaints have been made to the Government that the progress of settlement work is hampered for want of necessary staff with the result that the operations become costly ?

A.—(*a*) It was not found possible for a single Revenue Officer to attend to the work connected with the settlement operations in all the scattered estates of the Ganjam district expeditiously. The Government have therefore sanctioned the appointment of an additional Revenue Officer for the purpose.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*c*) of question No. 603 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 12th October 1928.

(*c*) Representations to this effect have been received.